(c) whether the Central Government have assured the Karnatka Government that the proposed power projects would be cleared;

(d) if so, whether the said assurance has been fulfilled; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not aise.

Import of oil

885. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the quantity of oil which is expected to be imported during the year 1987-88 and the total foreign exchange burden on that account; and

(b) the measures being taken by Government to reduce the quantity of imported oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) It is expected that the quantity of crude oil to be imported during current year would be about two million tonnes higher than that in the previous year. It is difficult to estimate exactly the total foreign exchange involved but it is likely to be higher as the general level of price is higher.

(b) The important steps, among others, taken to reduce imports are to intensify exploration efforts, curb consumption of POL, promote conservation through various measures etc.

Plans intensify oil search in Rajasthan

886. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to chalk out any fresh plan to intensify oil search in the desert of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when the work to intensify the oil and natural gas search will commence; and

(d) what are the details of the financial allocations for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) Exploration for hydocarbons in Rajasthan is being carried out as per Seventh Plan Programmes. During the Seventh Plan period, ONGC propose to conduct about 8685 SLK of seismic survey and to drill 24 wells. The outlay provided for this is about Rs. 99 crores. Oil India Limited has also drawn up a programme for drilling 6 wells at a cost of about Rs. 51 crores.

Oil exploration in Andhra Pradesh

887. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to intensify oil exploration activity in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) During the Seventh Plan period, ONGC propose to step up